

The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

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How to Join

- * Come to a club meeting;
- * or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)
- * or call Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

From the President

By Mark Brown, N4BCD

A notable month fellow DX'ers. A few weeks ago my mother lost her 16 month battle with ovarian cancer so family matters have preempted pretty much everything. She's the one who demanded the Radio Shack employee of 1972 to fix my poorly soldered SWL radio kit. We'll miss her greatly.

We did have a very nice Club picnic up on Monte Sano last month. The weather was perfect and solar conditions good enough to make some CW and Phone contacts using an assortment of QRP rigs. Regretfully, CO8LY didn't make it into any of our logs but good food did make it to our stomachs. Our pot-luck affairs are truly remarkable in the assembled goodies.

Only a few days ago did I venture to reconnect antennas and hit the radio power button. I knew there were some DXpeditions underway and was unprepared for the sheer number. I also spent more than a few minutes just staring at the radio – a life changing event seemed to render the control labels almost into a foreign language.

Now after a few days I'm comfortable in my comfortable chair, comfortable again with the

rig. Scaring Julie when I yell out of the blue "Got him!". You'd probably yell too after spending 90 minutes of fruitless casting on 15m RTTY before hooking T2GC for an ATNO. Missed an hour of work one morning trying unsuccessfully for TX3X on 40m RTTY (see bandscope on the last page). Many of us at NA sunrise watched with dismay as they ran Asia, before *finally* calling for only NA. As this is written the A index is approaching the solar flux number – a really bad thing for the expeditions underway.

Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting with officer elections and a time to disburse the last of our 2015 budgeted (\$200) support for DXpeditions. Here are some candidates: Willis VK9; Palmyra K5P; South Sandwich/South Georgia VP8; Bovet; Heard Island; and Juan de Nova.

Word has it that Bovet and Heard are the most expensive from a travel standpoint so I'm proposing we split the last of our 2015 funding to those two. We can discuss & vote on this on Tuesday.

73 and see you at the Corral,

Mark N4BCD

QSK for the AL-1200

October Program by Steve Werner, A64W

An advanced copy of this program leaked to the LongPath indicates that the best parts may be somewhat peripheral to the real work on the amp. But we've said enough—judge for yourself. Get to the Golden Corral about 6:00 pm for dinner, 7:00 for the business meeting (this is the yearly official meeting of the NADXC per the constitution), and 7:30 for the program. See you there!



September Meeting Minutes

By Kelley Vann Johns, W4VPZ, NADXC Secretary/Treasurer

25 members and 1 guest attended the September 8th meeting.

Announcements:

Banquet: Special thanks to Kevin KG4TEI for his AV setup skills and the hot-swap of a failed projector, Kelley W4VPZ for processing all the ticket details, and Chris KF4MMF for taking pictures. Larry Bostic K3LB, winner of the grand prize FTdx1200, emailed to Mark N4BCD wondering what to do with the radio since he already has an IC-7700. Members of the NADXC Club made several good suggestions, which Mark will convey back to Larry.

Thank you letters to door prize sponsors Yaesu, Gigaparts, DXEngineering, and HRD have been sent. Warren KJ4RAQ has a \$900 discount coupon expiring in December for Expert Linear Amps that he is offering to anyone who might want it.

Our annual picnic is this Saturday, September 12, 9:30 start with a potluck lunch at noon. Tell the gate attendant you're with the radio club for free admission.

The Christmas Party is set for December 8 at Terranova's at 6:00 p.m. Reservations have been made.

Bob K8KI and Tim AB4B have, both, suffered ESD events in the past few weeks. Show and tell was offered by both of them.

DX Worked:

Tom KG4CUY -- FW5JJ on 12m

Bill KD8IGK -- 9Q0HQ Congo, HZ1SK Saudi Arabia

Al W4ABW -- for challenge -- E5IDWC, 3D2AG (40m), 4L8A (17m)

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance	\$5394.35
Deposits (banquet ticket sales)	\$ 1 6 4 3 . 4 8
Checks (banquet cost, two ticket refunds)	\$ 2 3 0 3 . 9 4
Ending Balance	\$4733.89

Membership Applications:

None

Old Business:

Repeater status: No change.

Nominating committee (John N5DF, Ralph K1KOB, and Tim AB4B) report:

President: Mark N4BCD -- unless another candidate can be found

Vice President: Jim N4KH

Secretary/Treasurer: Kelley W4VPZ

Next month is our annual meeting and officer election.

We will also vote at the next meeting for the DXer of the year.

DXpedition sponsorships. So far this fiscal year the club has disbursed \$200 to VP8 South Sandwich Islands from a budgeted \$400 amount. Our last discussion a few months ago we agreed to wait until after the Banquet to determine additional funding. Some requests have been made, and we will consider those and others at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned and was followed by Mark's program on Using HFTA.

NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Mark Brown, N4BCD
Vice President	Warren Alford, KJ4RAQ
Secretary/	Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ
Treasurer	
At-large	Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI
directors	Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

The LongPath Staff

Publisher/Editor:

Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

Departments:

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ, Minutes

Mark Brown, N4BCD, From the President

NADXC Picnic 2015

By John Stensby, N5DF

This year's picnic was spectacular! On the weather front, Mother Nature cooperated, providing blue, sunny skies and moderately-warm temperatures. Plenty of food and drink was had by all. Bravado of DX-worked and equipment capabilities filled the air.

The event is summarized by the pictures that follow. Three stations were operated, providing many Qs to contesters on the bands. The sunny warm weather put a smile on the face of everyone, especially the YLs in attendance.

[Somehow missing from the following pictures is Kevin and Terri's harmonic Charlie, who clearly stole the show. - Ed.]



20, 17, and 15m yielded modest DX (EU and SA) with a dipole.



An end-fed wire worked well at both ends of 40m, with lantern batteries for power.



Hidden in the go-box is a K2 to a home-brew small loop.



The real fun was in the small pavilion.

More Picnic Pix

By M. D. Smith, WA4DXP





More Picnic Pix (cont'd from p. 4)



October Birthday Robert Galvin

The Galvin name was closely associated with Motorola for almost 60 years. The company was founded as Galvin Manufacturing Company in Chicago in 1928 by Paul and brother Joseph based on their purchased of the Stewart Battery Company. In 1930 they began producing aftermarket car radios and police radio receivers, eventually changing the company name to Motorola to reflect that new product line.

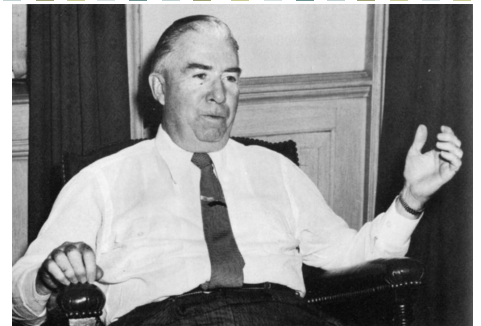
During WWII, Motorola produced one of the first handie-talkies, the SCR536, all the while continuing to make car radios. After the war, Motorola entered the television receiver market, and became one of the leaders in a seemingly endless field of manufacturers. In the '50s, they entered into other consumer audio. In the late '50s and '60s, much effort went into developing public service two-way communications equipment, and equipment for the space program.

Paul's son Robert, born on October 9, 1922, took over Motorola's reins at his

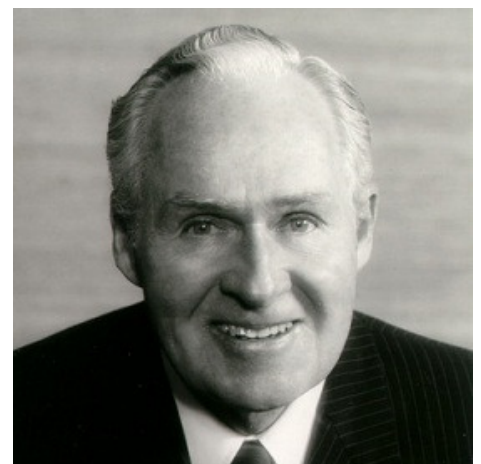
father's death in 1959. Opportunities as a semiconductor manufacturer changed the face of Motorola under Bob's control—many of us probably think of the "bat wings" on the tops of chips as much as anywhere else. But personal communications took Motorola into new directions again, with the first production cellular telephone in 1984.

The Motorola we know today bears little resemblance to the company that existed during either of the Galvin's periods.

On a personal note, I owe much to the Motorola of the '50s and '60s: my father's rubber parts manufacturing company, Duncan Rubber Company, also in Chicago, made who knows how many hundreds of thousands rubber and plastic washers, gaskets, O-rings, seals, feet — you name it — for Motorola. I remember my dad telling me "I really liked the old man—never met the kid, but his money was every bit as good."



Motorola founder Paul Galvin (1895-1959)



Robert Galvin, Motorola CEO from his father's death in 1959 to 1986.

DX Contests for October

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

Oceania DX Phone Contest (CW), 160-10 meters

Oct 10, 0800Z to Oct 11, 0800Z

Exchange: RS & Serial No.

See page 89, Oct. QST and www.oceaniadxcontest.com

Makrothen Contest, (Digital), 80-10 meters

Oct. 10, 0000Z to Oct. 11, 1600Z
(See website for time details)

Exchange: 4 character grid square

See page 89, Oct. QST and www.home.arcor.de/waldemar.kebsch

Scandinavian Activity Contest, (SSB) 80-10 meters

Oct. 10, 1200Z to Oct. 11, 1200Z

Exchange: RS & Serial No.

See page 89, Oct. QST and <http://www.sactest.net>

JARTS WW RTTY Contest, (RTTY), 80-10 meters

Oct. 17, 0000Z to Oct. 18, 2400Z

Exchange: RS(T) & age; YL: 00

See page 89, Oct. QST and www.jarts.jp/rules2015.html

Worked All Germany Contest, (SSB & CW), 20-10 meters

Oct 17, 1500Z to Oct 18, 1459Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial number or DOK code

See page 89, Oct. QST and www.darc.de/referate/dx/contesting/wag/en

Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, (CW), 15 & 20 meters

Oct. 18, 0000Z-0200Z,

Exchange: RST plus serial number

See page 89, Oct QST and www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

Stew Perry Topband Challenge, (CW), 160 meters

Oct. 17, 1500Z to Oct. 18, 1500Z

Exchange: 4-character grid square

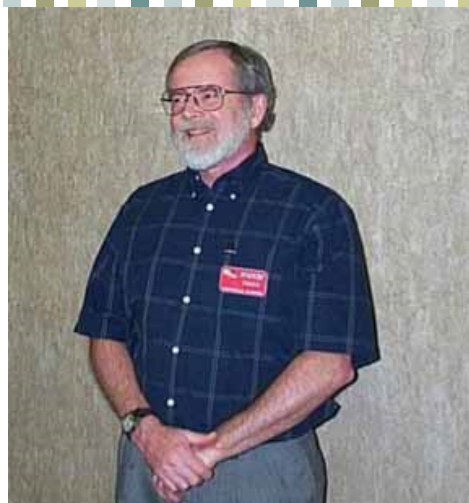
See page 89, Oct. QST and www.kkn.net/stew

CQ WW SSB, (SSB), 160-10 meters

Oct. 24, 0000Z to Oct 25, 2359Z

Exchange: RS & CQ zone

See page 89, Oct. QST and www.cqww.com/rules.htm



WAE DX Contest (DIG), 80-10 meters

Nov. 14, 0000Z to Nov. 15, 2400Z

Exchange: RST plus serial number
(see rules for QTC)

See www.waedc.de

OTHERS:

Russian WW MultiMode Contest,

1200Z, Oct 31 to 1159Z, Nov 1

Ukrainian DX Contest,

1200Z, Nov 7 to 1200Z, Nov 8

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. Also, check the cluster: "sh/contest". Have fun!

Chuck, N4NM



TX3X RTTY pileup. See *From the President* on p. 1.